

This is from Richard Perrin, the 2020 Census Partnership Specialist here in Strafford County.

2020 Census information.

We are still in the process of getting the word out about the 2020 Census.

The 2020 Census is **EASY** to fill out. It took my family about 7 minutes to complete the form. If you need to get help filling out the 2020 Census form, you can call this toll-free number: **844-330-2020**. Also, there are 12 languages (in addition to English) available on the phone and 59 Non-English languages available on line. The main Census web page to respond to the Census or get help is **2020census.gov**.

The 2020 Census is **SAFE**. Answers are confidential and secure. We take an oath to keep the information secure. Violators are subject to severe penalties including a prison term of up to 5 years, a fine of up to \$250,000, or both. In addition, we never ask for your full social security number, money or donations, anything on behalf of a political party, bank or credit card numbers, or citizenship.

The 2020 Census is **IMPORTANT**, of vital importance to every city and town in New Hampshire as well as any town or organization that depends on funding of any kind. This is because the federal government will distribute over **\$675 billion dollars** to the states in support of their state and local programs (school and lunch programs, day care, Seniors, SNAP, local roads, bridges, etc.). The total count of every person directly affects the amount of the funding we will receive here in New Hampshire.

The response rate in Stafford is currently at **66.5 %** which is **94th in the state**, which is very good. With your help (you are trusted voices), we can increase the response rate and reach our goal to get everyone counted. The higher the count, the better the funding.

The national rate of response is 64.4% and New Hampshire is at 64.3%.